

414th BSB – Büdingen, Hanau

Around the community

Awana Club welcomes youths

The Awana Club, a self-paced Christian children's organization, meets every Tuesday from 6-8 p.m. at Argonner Elementary School on Old Argonner Kaserne. The club is open to all children in grades kindergarten through sixth grade. Activities include games, sing alongs, scripture reading and more. Call Lynn Stinson at civ (06181) 520 277 for more information.

Valentine's balloons

Hanau USO delivers Balloon-A-Grams on Valentine's Day. For information call mil 322-8725 or stop by the Hanau USO in Building 4 on Pioneer Kaserne.

Home school support group

Are you a home schooler in the Hanau area or would you like to get more information about home schooling in general? Meet with other home schoolers Feb. 24 at 7 p.m. to talk about home schooling and forming a home school support group in the community. Call Terri Petrie for more information and directions at civ (06051) 828 655.

Protestant Women of the Chapel meet on Thursdays

All women are welcome to attend Bible studies with the Protestant Women of the Chapel at Fliegerhorst Chapel from 9-11:15 a.m. every Thursday morning. Call civ (06181) 520 272 for more information

USO open house

The Hanau USO holds an open house Feb. 4 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Come celebrate the USO's 62nd birthday in Building 4 on Pioneer Kaserne. Free giveaways include Ryan Air flight tickets.

Spouses Club offers thousands in scholarships

Applications for the Hanau Community Spouses Club scholarships are now available at the Hanau High School counselors office and the Hanau Education Center on Pioneer Kaserne. High school seniors, family members and adult civilians are encouraged to apply. The deadline for submission is March 19. Last year the club gave out \$20,000 to more than a dozen students.

Büdingen Middle School Teen Center now open

The Büdingen Teen Center is now open and accepting suggestions from interested teens and parents. Stop by Building 2330 on Armstrong Barracks Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. or Saturday from 1-3 p.m. Transportation will be provided to and from the Gelnhausen bus stop to the center daily. For more information call mil 321-4793 or civ (06042) 80-793.

Army Family Action Plan

If you have an idea or suggestion on how the 414th Base Support Battalion or the Army can improve, members of the Army Family Action Plan committee want to hear it. Pick up an issue form at the Wolfgang Outreach Center at the Wolfgang Shopping Center and drop your suggestion in the mail using free MPS mail. AFAP members will meet Feb. 11-12 at the International Club to discuss all of the issues turned in. For more information contact Barb Wheeler at mil 322-5308 or email bpwheels@hotmail.com.

Reading nights

Crack open a book on Army Family Reading Night at Pioneer Library in Hanau. Learn to create skits using books, a quiet reading space in a busy home, a family reading journal and techniques for reading aloud. Reading Nights will be



Photo by Melody Joy Fields

New Saturday APO service

Postal workers at the Hanau Army Post Office at the Wolfgang Shopping Center have expanded their hours offering Saturday service as well from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The new Saturday hours will be featured for a nine-week trial period through April 14, after which community officials will take a look at customer demand to see if continued Saturday service will be provided.

featured through April 10 from 6-7 p.m. Call the Pioneer Library for program dates and to register at mil 322-8942.

Volunteers wanted

The American Red Cross, Army Community Service, the library and sports office need volunteers. Contact the 414th Base Support Battalion installation volunteer coordinator at Hanau ACS, Building 9 on Pioneer Kaserne or call mil 322-9110.

New fitness center hours

Hanau and Büdingen area fitness centers are now open longer hours, until 9 p.m. most nights. Contact the center near you for information about programs and classes.

Hanau playhouse to feature 'All my Sons'

Hanau's Five Pfennig Theater presents "All My Sons," an Arthur Miller play, Feb. 28, March 1, 6-8, 13-15 at 7:30 p.m. For reservations call the USO at mil 322-8725 or email 5pfennig@hanau.army.mil.

Outdoor Rec ski trips

Ski on the Feldberg in the Black Forest Feb 8-9. On Feb 14-17 celebrate Valentine's Day at the Armed Forces Recreation Center in Chiemsee. Mogul through the Black Forest with another ski trip to the Feldberg Feb 22-23. Call Hanau Outdoor Recreation for costs and reservations at civ (06181) 88-8891 or mil 322-8891.

Ballet classes

The Cardwell Youth Services Center features ballet classes Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:10-4 p.m. for children age 3-6 years old and Thursdays from 4-4:50 p.m. for children age 7-12. Participants must be registered with CLEOS and have

a current health assessment on file. Cost is \$30 for a 50-minute class. Call mil 322-9144 or 9919 for more information.

Lunch at the International

The International Club on Fliegerhorst Kaserne features lunch every Monday to Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call mil 322-7266 for details.

New Sampler hours

The American Sampler Craft Shop at the Hanau's Wolfgang Shopping Center is now open Monday and Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. It is closed on all U.S. holidays. Call mil 322-8082 or civ (06181) 88-8082 for more information.

Fitness points

Every spin class you sign up for earns points toward a free class. Take only eight classes and get the ninth free. Spin classes are held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-7 p.m. at the Cardwell Fitness Center. Cost is \$3 per session. For more information call the Cardwell Fitness Center at mil 322-8067.

Sponsorship training classes

Help make the transition to Hanau easy with Army Community Service sponsorship classes. Classes are held the first and third Friday of each month from 10-11 a.m. in the Hanau ACS Conference Room, Building 9 on Pioneer Kaserne. Call mil 322-8965 to sign up.

Country dance class

The Hanau Rod and Gun Club offers free country dance classes every Saturday from 8-9 p.m. Learn all the two-steps and line dances you ever wanted to know. Join the class and avoid paying cover charge for the evening.



Bulletin board

At the movies Feb. 4-20

Baumholder, Wagon Wheel

Feb. 4 — My Big Fat Greek Wedding (PG) 7 p.m.
Feb. 5-6 — Moonlight Mile (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 7-9 — Narc (R) 7 p.m.
Feb. 10-11 — 8 Mile (R) 7 p.m.
Feb. 12-13 — Tuck Everlasting (PG) 7 p.m.
Feb. 14-16 — Just Married (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 17-18 — I Spy (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 19-20 — Harry Potter And The Chamber Of Secrets (PG) 7 p.m.

Büdingen, Little

Feb. 7 — Red Dragon (R) 7 p.m.
Feb. 8 — The Transporter (PG-13) 3 p.m.
Feb. 14 — Brown Sugar (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 15 — Tuck Everlasting (PG) 3 p.m.

Dexheim, Rhein

Feb. 7 — Friday After Next (R) 7 p.m.
Feb. 8 — Just Married (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 9 — Harry Potter And The Chamber Of Secrets (PG) 3 p.m.
Feb. 14 — The Truth About Charlie (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 15 — Extreme Ops (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 16 — Kangaroo Jack (PG) 3 p.m.

Friedberg, Old Ironsides

Closed for renovations

Giessen, Skyline

Feb. 4-5 — Lord Of The Rings: The Two Towers (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 7 — Harry Potter And The Chamber Of Secrets (PG) 7 p.m.
Feb. 8 — Friday After Next (R) 7 p.m.
Feb. 9 — Half Past Dead (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 11-12 — Catch Me If You Can (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 14 — Extreme Ops (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 15 — The Emperor's Club (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 16 — The Truth About Charlie (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 18-19 — Narc (R) 7 p.m.

Hanau, Evening Star

Feb. 4 — Moonlight Mile (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 5 — My Big Fat Greek Wedding (PG) 7

p.m.
Feb. 6 — Moonlight Mile (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Feb. 7-8 — Biker Boyz (PG-13) 7 p.m. Friday After Next (R) 9:30 p.m.

Feb. 9 — Harry Potter And The Chamber Of Secrets (PG) 4 p.m. Biker Boyz (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Feb. 10 — Half Past Dead (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Feb. 11 — Harry Potter And The Chamber Of Secrets (PG) 7 p.m.

Feb. 12 — Half Past Dead (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Feb. 13 — Friday After Next (R) 7 p.m.

Feb. 14 — The Recruit (PG-13) 7 p.m. The Emperor's Club (PG-13) 9:30 p.m.

Feb. 15 — The Recruit (PG-13) 7 p.m. The Truth About Charlie (PG-13) 9:30 p.m.

Feb. 16 — The Recruit (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Feb. 17 — Extreme Ops (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Feb. 18 — The Emperor's Club (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Feb. 19 — The Truth About Charlie (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Feb. 20 — Extreme Ops (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Rhein Main, Gardens

Feb. 5 — Kangaroo Jack (PG) 7 p.m.
Feb. 7 — Harry Potter And The Chamber Of Secrets (PG) 7 p.m.
Feb. 8 — Half Past Dead (PG-13) 5 p.m. Narc (R) 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 9 — Friday After Next (R) 7 p.m.
Feb. 12 — Biker Boyz (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 14 — The Emperor's Club (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 15 — Extreme Ops (PG-13) 5 p.m. Just Married (PG-13) 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 16 — The Truth About Charlie (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 19 — The Recruit (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Wackernheim, McCully

Feb. 5 — To be announced locally 7 p.m.
Feb. 12 — To be announced locally 7 p.m.



Henry Oak (Ray Liotta, left) and Nick Tellis (Jason Patric) star in the gritty police drama, "Narc."

Feb. 19 — To be announced locally 7 p.m.

Wiesbaden, Flyers

Feb. 6 — Kangaroo Jack (PG) 7 p.m.
Feb. 7 — Half Past Dead (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 8 — Friday After Next (R) 7 p.m.
Feb. 13 — Biker Boyz (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 14 — The Truth About Charlie (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 15 — Extreme Ops (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 20 — The Recruit (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Wiesbaden, Taunus

Feb. 4 — My Big Fat Greek Wedding (PG) 7 p.m.
Feb. 5 — 8 Mile (PG) 7 p.m.
Feb. 6 — The Ring (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 7 — Kangaroo Jack (PG) 7 p.m. Friday After Next (R) 9:30 p.m.
Feb. 8 — Kangaroo Jack (PG) 4 p.m. Harry Potter And The Chamber Of Secrets (PG) 6:30 p.m. Half Past Dead (PG-13) 10 p.m.
Feb. 9 — Kangaroo Jack (PG) 4 p.m. Friday After Next (R) 7 p.m.
Feb. 10 — Kangaroo Jack (PG) 7 p.m.
Feb. 11 — Harry Potter And The Chamber Of Secrets (PG) 7 p.m.
Feb. 12 — Half Past Dead (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 13 — Friday After Next (R) 7 p.m.
Feb. 14 — My Big Fat Greek Wedding (PG) 7 p.m. Punch-Drunk Love (R) 9:30 p.m.
Feb. 15 — Biker Boyz (PG-13) 7 p.m. Extreme Ops (PG-13) 9:30 p.m.
Feb. 16 — Harry Potter And The Chamber Of Secrets (PG) 3 p.m. Biker Boyz (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 17 — The Emperor's Club (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 18 — The Truth About Charlie (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 19 — Extreme Ops (PG-13) 7 p.m.
Feb. 20 — The Truth About Charlie (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Movies and times subject to change by local theaters. For the most up-to-date schedule visit the ASG's website (see address below).

Movie plots

Biker Boyz (PG-13) — In the world of underground motorcycle clubs, the undefeated racer known as Smoke (Laurence Fishburne) is the undisputed "King of Cali." But Smoke's dominance is threatened by young motorcycle racing prodigy Kid (Derek Luke), who is determined to win Smoke's helmet and the title. Also stars Orlando Jones, Lisa Bonet and Kid Rock.

Catch Me If You Can (PG-13) — Frank Abagnale Jr. (Leonardo Di Caprio) became the most successful bank robber in the history of the United States. FBI agent Carl Hanratty (Tom Hanks) made it his mission to capture Frank and bring him to justice, but Frank was always one step ahead.

Narc (R) — Suspended undercover narcotics officer, Nick Tellis (Jason Patric), is reluctantly drawn back onto the force to find the truth behind the murder of a young police officer killed in the line of duty. He is teamed with Henry Oak (Ray Liotta), the slain officer's partner, a rogue cop who will stop at nothing to avenge his friend's death. As Tellis and Oak unravel the case, the dark underbelly of the narcotics world reveals itself in ways that are more twisted than either officer has seen before.

Friday After Next (R) — Craig (Ice Cube) and Day-Day (Mike Epps) are back in the old neighborhood and ready for Christmas. Although they've left behind the security of living with their parents, the rundown Shady Palms apartment they now share is filled with the accoutrements of the holiday season. It's a time for giving — until Craig wakes up in the middle of the night to discover a ghetto Santa Claus stealing their presents and anything else he can stuff into his sack, including the rent money jammed in their stereo speakers.

The Emperor's Club (PG-13) — William Hundert (Kevin Kline), St. Benedict's assistant headmaster, believes the role of a teacher is not only to educate but to mold the pupil's character. But in the fall of '72, Hundert finds his cloistered world of tradition and influence upended with the arrival of new freshman Sedgewick Bell (Emile Hirsch), the son of a West Virginia senator.

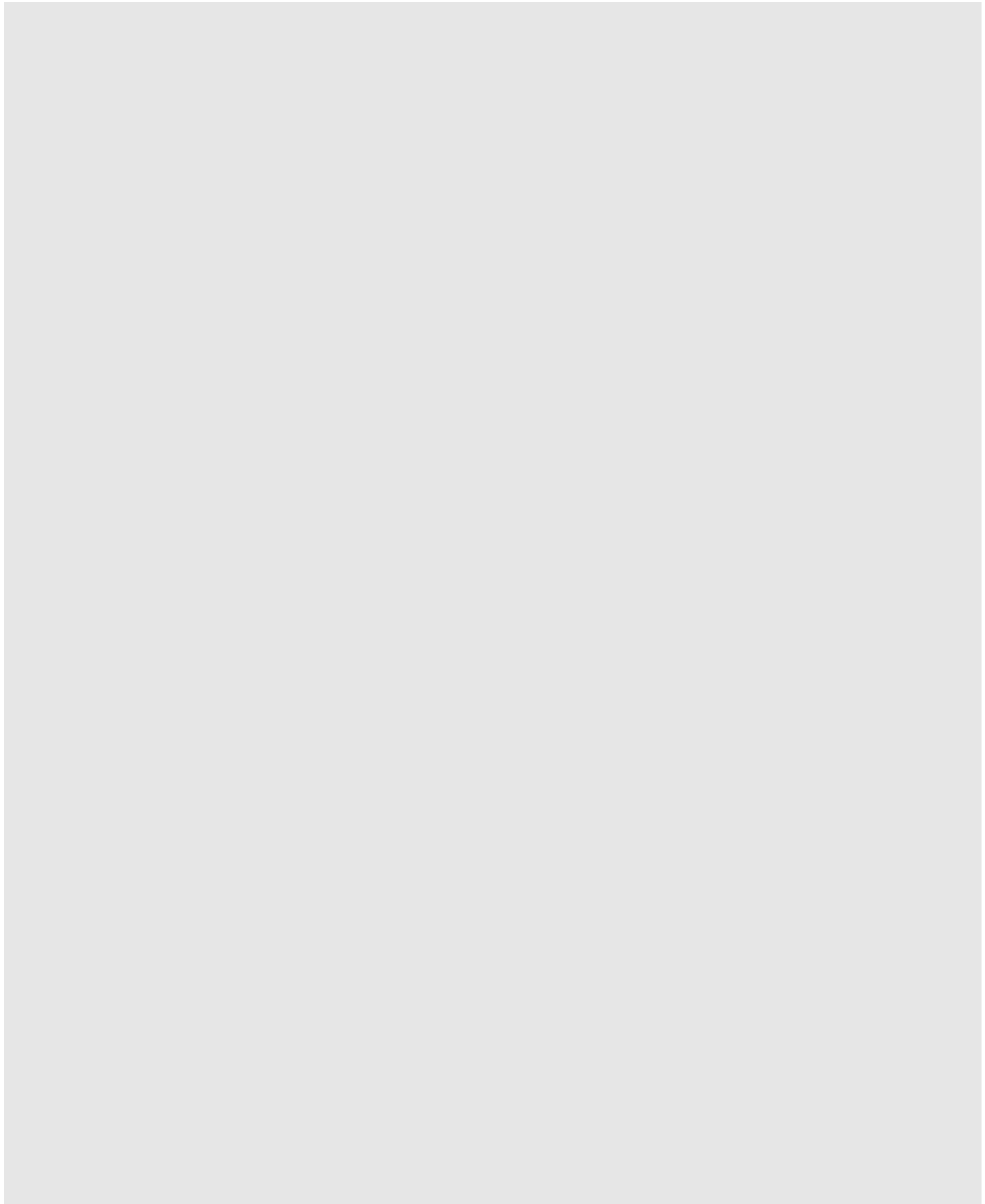
Kangaroo Jack (PG) — Best friends Charlie Carbone (Jeffy O'Connell) and Louis Fucci (Anthony Anderson) are both struggling to get ahead in life — but their approaches couldn't be more different. When they run afoul of Charlie's stepfather, mob boss Sal Maggio (Christopher Walken), they find themselves having to deliver \$50,000 to one of Sal's associates in Australia. But then real trouble hits in the body of a live kangaroo.

Harry Potter And The Chamber Of Secrets (PG) — The followup to "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" finds young wizard Harry Potter (Daniel Radcliffe) and his friends Ron (Rupert Grint) and Hermione (Emma Watson) facing new challenges during their second year at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry as they try to discover a dark force that is terrorizing the school.



Tina (Meagan Good) finds herself between two competitors (Brendan Fehr and Rick Gonzalez) in the action adventure, "Biker Boyz."

Herald Union classifieds



Sports and leisure

Sports shorts

DoDDS wrestling championships

Wiesbaden's General H.H. Arnold High School and the Wiesbaden Wrestling Committee host the 2003 Department of Defense Dependents Schools European Wrestling Championships Feb. 14-15 at the Sportshalle at Elsässer Platz in Wiesbaden. Opening ceremonies are at 11:15 a.m. Feb. 14. Call Darryl Schwartz at mil 337-6319, ext. 152 for more information.

Unit-level hoop action in Giessen

The 284th Base Support Battalion holds a Unit-Level Basketball Championship Feb. 15-16 starting at 10 a.m. at Giessen's Miller Hall Fitness Center. The tournament is free to all local units. Call mil 343-6384 for details.

Boxing tourney

Hanau Sports hosts its 15th annual Black History Boxing Tournament Feb. 8 at the Fliegerhorst Fitness Center. Weigh-ins and physicals take place from 9:30 a.m. to noon that day. A coaches and boxers meeting will be held at 2 p.m. The bouts start at 6 p.m. Admission is \$3 for adult spectators. For more information call mil 322-9617/7672 or civ (06181) 88-9617.

Special Olympics

Translators, athletes' "buddies" and other volunteers are sought for the annual Special Olympics Games for handicapped youths in Kaiserslautern May 14. To volunteer or for more information send an email to Larry_Zani@compuserve.com.

Bowling highlights

The Baumholder Bowl features 50-cent bowling every Tuesday from 4-11 p.m. during Nifty Fifties Night. Call mil 485-6569. Bowling lovers may want to roll into Hanau's Hessen Bowl at the Wolfgang Shopping Center for the Valentine's Scotch Doubles Tournament Feb. 9 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entry is \$20 per couple. Call mil 322-8638 or civ (06181) 88-8534 for details.

Coaches sought

Interested in volunteer coaching the top soldier and civilian athletes in the Hanau area? The 414th Base Support Battalion Sports Office is looking for you. Coaches are needed for soccer, volleyball, track and field and softball. Call mil 322-9617.

Free aerobics in Friedberg

Friedberg Fitness Center offers free aerobics classes Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The center is located in Building 3605 on Ray Barracks. Call mil 343-7520 for details.



Super Cup champions

Friedberg's 1-37th Armor claims title

By David Ruderman
104th Area Support Group Public Affairs Office

Making up in enthusiasm for what they lacked in numbers, a small squad from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1-37th Armor, in Friedberg won the 104th Area Support Group Super Cup Basketball Tournament Jan. 19. With just six players on the winning squad, 1-37th put away Company A, 47th Forward Support Battalion, 55-50, at Giessen's Miller Hall to take home the title.

Participation in the annual tournament and the two days of base support battalion-level playoffs that picked the final four contestants was affected by heightened mission requirements, said players and sports officials.

"The turnout as far as spectators was concerned was low," said Van French, 104th Area Support Group Sports and Fitness director. "The first game we had some decent amount of spectators, but you could see ... Two of the teams from Hanau, one of their players got called back while he was right there on the court."

Participation at the BSB-level in Hanau included only seven teams, said Andrew Solomon of the 414th Base Support Battalion Sports Office.

"That's because of the missions and all that's going on. There were two teams that had to come off their mission to play. But as far as the play, the championship game was a humdinger," said French. "The two teams that played had the lowest number of players."

"This was a pickup team of people left back here because our regular team is down in Graf doing gunnery," said Paul Aron, who



Photo by Alexander Randall

Members of Friedberg's HHC, 1-37th Armor, battle for possession under the boards with Baumholder's Co. A, 47th FSB, during the Supercup championship game in Giessen.

took the court for 1-37th in the two days of base support battalion level play leading up to the championship. Aron had to miss the final due to mission requirements.

"It was seven guys one day and six the next. All I was was filler. Staff Sgt. Hayes, Spc. Chestnut, Sgt. Bornhorn and those guys were the main contributing factor. We got what we could and we played the game," said Aron.

"The play was excellent," said French. "There were quite a few one- and two-point games. They were tooth and nail from start to finish."

In the opener 1-37th Armor beat Company B, 127th Aviation Support Battalion, representing the 414th BSB, 60-42. The 47th FSB squad, representing the 222nd BSB, edged out Company B, 1-4th ADA, from Wackernheim, representing the 221st BSB, 52-48 to move into the final.

In the losers' bracket playoff 127th ASB scored a tournament high 74 points against 1-4th ADA's 69 to take third place.

Fredrick Smith of the 1-37th was voted Most Valuable Player of the tournament for outstanding scoring, number of turnovers forced and shots blocked.

Things to do ... Things to do ... Things to do

Comedy After Dark

Live professional comedians will be featured at Hanau's Paradise Club on Cardwell Kaserne Feb. 22 at 10 p.m. An After Hours Party runs until 4 a.m. Tickets are \$15 at the door or \$10 in advance. The performance is restricted to adults only. Call mil 322-9045.

African-American Art Show in Wiesbaden

The Römer Art Center on Wiesbaden Army Airfield features a free art display by local, celebrated African-American artists during February, Black History Month. Artwork will also be on display at the Amelia Earhart Playhouse. Artists John Workman, Brent Jones and Andrew Washington talk about their artwork at the Wiesbaden Army Airfield Dining Facility Feb. 6 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Chinese circus

The Bad Orb Konzerthalle hosts a Chinese circus Feb. 6 at 8 p.m. Tickets can be reserved by calling civ (06052) 8326.

Free DoD show



The Body and Soul Vegas Review, a free Department of Defense touring show, will be featured Feb. 5 at noon at the Rheinlander Club in Dexheim. The Las Vegas-style show with singing and dancing girls is suitable for the entire family. Call mil 334-5712 for details.

NAACP flea market

The Hanau Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People holds a flea market at the Bürgerhaus in the Wolfgang section of Hanau Feb. 15 from noon to 6 p.m. Cost to reserve a pair of tables is €20. Call civ (0172) 681 0300 for reservations.

'Lift Up Your Hearts'

The Army's Bravo touring production, featuring soldier thespians, will appear in Hanau and Giessen in February. The 70-

minute original show titled "Lift Up Your Hearts, America" features a montage of American songs, writing and poetry aimed at leaving audiences uplifted. Songs featured include tunes by Billy Joel, James Taylor, Carly Simon, Woody Guthrie and Roger Miller. It will be featured in Hanau Feb. 6-7 at the International Club on Fliegerhorst Kaserne as a dinner theater performance with the meal at 6:30 p.m. and the show at 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$24 or \$12 for just the show. Tickets are available at the Hanau USO (call mil 322-8725). It will also be featured at Giessen's Keller Theater Feb. 13-14 at 7:30 p.m. Call mil 343-6515/6400 for details.

Upcoming concerts

The Jahrhunderthalle in Frankfurt-Höchst presents **Tori Amos** Feb. 5 and **Tracy Chapman** Feb. 27. **Vanessa Carlton** appears at the Capitol in Offenbach Feb. 9. **Harry Belafonte** sings at the Frankfurt Festhalle March 1. Pick up tickets at major ticket offices.

Leaving no child behind at Hanau High

Diverse student body supported to succeed

By David Ruderman

104th Area Support Group Public Affairs Office

Hanau High School performs “real-world missions” every day. The school is dedicated to leaving none of its 340 students behind while taking budget constraints, deployments and student diversity in stride, said principal Jennifer Rowland.

“We looked at ninth-graders coming from the middle school and how we could give them the support they need by defining which classes and seminars they’d go into,” she said. Older students were assessed during the first quarter. “We’re examining it to make sure we’re doing the right thing. For the second semester [which began Jan. 28] we’re watching kids for behavior and academic success to see where they belong,” said Rowland.

Using seminar periods effectively is one part of an overall strategy, said assistant principal Ken Harvey. “The seminar periods, what we used to call study halls, help because the teachers can use their time better. We’re really now more focused on kids with failing grades. Teachers get to see the kids that need the most help,” he said. There are three “seminar moms and dads” who volunteer to work with students, and the school encourages more to participate, said Harvey.

Making homework a more effective learning tool is another issue at Hanau High, he said. “Homework is one reason why kids have failing grades. We’re working on defining specifically what homework is and what it should be used for. We’re determining the time their spending on homework and limiting the number of minutes they spend on each subject. We’re trying to make them more responsible for the homework they have. It’s a two-part approach, to make it more relevant and to make sure students turn it in.”

The school is even experimenting with making homework optional. “We’re going to see if it works or not,” said Harvey.

Building on last year’s School Improvement Plan, giving and responding to instructions, the faculty has expanded its goals this year, said Rowland. “We’ve seen some success with that and have come to a focus on problem solving through problem-based



Photo by Karl Weisel

Agnes Agyeman presents a report on “Torn Thread” by Anne Isaacs to Jennifer Rowland’s 11th-grade history class Jan. 22.

learning — teaching students by setting an open-ended task for them that they have to work through. The idea is to make sure it sticks. There is a lot of lecture at the high school level, with students taking notes in class. What we’ve found is the more students have tasks that they have to work through and show results, the better they tend to learn,” said Rowland.

Specializing for success

Hanau has offered students additional classes and possibilities this year, in part through additional funding through Program Objective Memorandum funds, said Rowland. Algebra and geometry support classes and Read 180 were staffed to help students improve their performance and broaden their possibilities for the future.

“We managed to find the staffing to add a class on college preparation to improve SAT scores,” said Rowland. About 24 juniors and sophomores are enrolled. “Students are really interested in doing better,” she said.

The school added Advanced Placement chemistry and biology classes to its AP calculus, English and history offerings, said Harvey, and a new practical career curriculum focused on home economics is also in place.

“That’s a whole new program that’s come in this year.” Cisco computer technician training has expanded to three classes and a chemical applications class lets students spend more time in a hands-on laboratory environment. “It shows us we’re going in the right direction,” he said.

“The thing we find our students do really well in is writing and being able to explain their thoughts in writing. We can always get better, but we’ve seen continuous growth over the past seven or eight years. Hanau High students are good writers,” said Rowland.

Hanau High’s student body reflects the diversity of contemporary American society at large, said Rowland. “We have a fairly substantial population of students living less with a parent than an adult sponsor. I would say we probably have 50 students who don’t live with a parent, but rather a sponsor.”

The school is also home to significant number of African students, some of whom have found refuge with family members in the Hanau community after being displaced by the wars raging on the continent in the past decade, she said.

In the past several months administrators and teachers have become aware of the effects

of a possible war against Iraq on students, said Rowland. “We’ve already lost two students whose parents were dual military. We have a fair number of students coming in because their parents are being deployed. It’s beginning to affect the kids.” Youngsters are beginning to

realize that their mother or father won’t be there for their birthdays, their big games or their graduations, said Rowland.

“We’re starting to feel it, feeling a lot of the tension,” said Harvey. “It’s probably going to affect our mentoring program. Last week we actually had to cancel it. We need to be sensitive to what’s going on with these kids. They’re all dealing with the tension of not knowing what’s going on and what to expect. A lot of our teachers are close to their students, and they know they need to listen. We have a faculty that’s very good at that, at listening. A lot of the rest of us too don’t know what’s going to happen.”

The school’s crisis intervention team is monitoring the situation, and classroom teachers are keeping their eyes on students to intervene as issues arise, said Rowland. A Wellness Day set for Feb. 13 will include activities that deal specifically with deployment-related matters, she said.

Focus on Hanau High School



School bits

Presidents Day coming

Feb. 14 is a staff development day; there will be no classroom instruction. Feb. 17 is Presidents Day, a federal holiday. Regular instruction will resume Feb. 18.

Drama Fest needs hosts

The 2003 Department of Defense Dependents Schools All-Europe Drama Festival will be held at Gen. H.H. Arnold High School in Wiesbaden April 28-30. Volunteer host

families and performance evaluators are sought. Families are needed to host some of the 200 student participants for three nights and provide transportation during their stay. Call the school at mil 337-6319 or Kim Bagwell at civ (0611) 1748 474 for details. Evaluators with theatrical experience are sought as well to serve as judges. Call the school at mil 337-6319 or Jan Meyers at civ (06127) 993 761 for details.

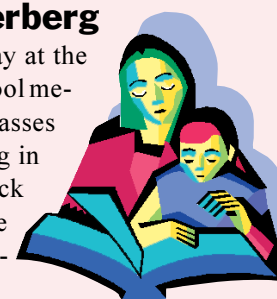
Scholarships available

The 2003 Scholarships for Military Children program administered by the Fisher House Foundation is coming up on its Feb. 21 deadline. Applicants compete for \$1,500 scholarships based on a short essay. Infor-

mation and applications may be picked up at any commissary service office or on the web at www.commissaries.com.

Reading at Hainerberg

Wednesday is reading day at the Hainerberg Elementary School media center from the end of classes until 5 p.m. Students coming in with their parents may check out up to 15 books and use computers for research or educational games.



The back page



Now a mere ruin, the Landskron Castle was originally built as a fortification in the 13th century to control the Rhein River and land routes between Mainz and Worms.

Opulent Oppenheim

Head south on the Rhein River to discover less-visited attractions

Story and photos by Karl Weisel
104th Area Support Group Public Affairs Office

When most people think of the Rhein River Valley they picture the sinuous waterway north of Mainz between Rüdesheim and Koblenz.

But what some people might not know, except of course for those who call Dexheim's Anderson Barracks home, is that the region south of Mainz has its own distinct charms. A short drive down the B-9 along the bank of the river leads one into the towns of Nierstein and Oppenheim, both of which feature their share of wine cellars and guest houses.

Set in a bend in the river just down the road from Dexheim and through scores of vineyards is the medieval town of Oppenheim. With its dominating St. Catherine's Church and Landskron Castle ruins, the Rhein River town offers visitors a good place to head out on adventure. Scores of paths lead up into the hills through the fields and vineyards giving bikers and hikers a range of trails to explore.

Those with small children will enjoy the short hike up from the impressive Gothic church to the castle ruins which sprawl on a hillside overlooking Oppenheim and the broad river as it winds its way north from Worms.

Before heading up to the castle take the time to wander around the lofty church, one of the most impressive religious structures on the Rhein. Built between 1220 and 1439 it is a showcase of Romanesque and Gothic features rivaling the cathedrals of Strassburg and Cologne.

While efforts are currently under way to raise enough money to repair the church's huge organ, choral concerts continue to be featured in the Katherinenkirche while organ

concerts are featured in the nearby Martinskirche in Nierstein. A schedule of upcoming church music concerts is available at the church.

Examining the stained glass windows of the church provides a look at the reformation and other events in church history. Images of Martin Luther, John Calvin and Christian saints are featured along with the notable "Lily Window" (a symbol of purity during the Middle Ages) and the "Rose of Oppenheim" (the symbol of love set in a crest of the old city of Oppenheim). Other stained glass creations depict the history of the city from the Middle Ages, vineyard workers and notable dignitaries through the years.

Young people may find grisly delight in a visit to the Charnel House (Bein Haus) situated around back. As one flips on the light



St. Catherine's Church has been compared to the cathedrals of Strassburg and Cologne.

switch to gaze through the gated door one is confronted with thousands of bones and skulls stacked ceiling high in a vault which extends under the nearby houses. The bones of some 20,000 people are stored in the vault — the remains of Oppenheim citizens who died between 1400 and 1750, and soldiers killed during the Thirty Years War.



The bones of some 20,000 people are stored in the Bein Haus behind St. Catherine's Church.

Walking out of the town proper up into the surrounding vineyards takes one to the castle ruins. Built as a fortification to control Rhein River traffic and the well-traveled land route between Mainz and Worms in the 13th century, the castle was destroyed a short time later only to be rebuilt in 1275 by order of Rudolf von Habsburg. Over some 460 years the castle was used for various endeavors before falling into the ruined state in which it remains today. It is said that tunnels located underneath the castle once connected the castle to the town proper, but locked doors prevent visitors from entering the underground portions of the castle these days.

During warmer weather visitors may want to pack a picnic lunch to enjoy in the castle grounds. But even in the colder months one will discover several cozy eateries situated in the town square below St. Catherine's Church which serve local culinary fare and wines. An Asian restaurant is also located in the old town center.

To get to Oppenheim travel down B-9 from Mainz in the direction of Nierstein. Visitors might also want to consider taking the ferry from Nierstein back across the river and heading toward Stockstadt to bike or hike on the nature preserve of Kuhkopf.